Docket No.: 20140-00288-US1

(PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Ravi F. Saraf

Application No.: To be Assigned

Group Art Unit: To be Assigned

Filed: Herewith

Examiner: To be Assigned

For: SYNTHESIS OF CHEMICAL TAGS

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

## IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

On page 1, after the title, please insert the following paragraph:

## -- CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/916,439, filed July 30, 2001, now allowed, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/668,140, filed September 25, 2000, now abandoned, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/154,584, filed September 17, 1998, now abandoned, all of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.--